

Violet Cottage,  
Llandovery,

July 24th, 1951

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Llandovery

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1950.

#### Statistics and Social Condition of the Area

Area (in acres) ... ..	1,266
Estimated Population ... ..	2,051
Number of Inhabited Houses ... ..	586
Rateable Value ... ..	£7,199
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£27

#### VITAL STATISTICS

##### Births

Rate per 1,000 civil population—8.776 as compared with 15.8 for England and Wales.

						M	F
Live Births—Legitimate	...	...	...	...	24	8	16
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	3	1	2
Still Births—Legitimate	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil

##### Deaths

Rate per 1,000 civil population—17.5 as compared with 11.6 for England and Wales

Deaths	...	...	...	...	36	12	24
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
No. 29 (Registrar-General's Short List)—Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
No. 30 ditto Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 births	...	...	...	...	Nil
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	Nil
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	4
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhæa (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	Nil

There have been no cases of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the Borough during the year, neither have there been any condition of occupation or environment which appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health.

The general health of the residents of the Borough was exceptionally good.

#### Zymotic Diseases

There was no Diphtheria case, no Whooping Cough or Measles notified and 8 Scarlet Fever cases notified in the Borough, and every precaution was taken to avoid the spread of the disease, and it was gratifying to state that there were no deaths; there were no cases of Poliomyelitis, and no case of Pneumonia notified.

Immunisation of Children against Diphtheria was carried out.

37 Children were immunised, and 2 cases of reinforcement injections during 1950.

The majority of the Children, nine months old and over that age have been immunised against Diphtheria, and the parents show eagerness in having it carried out.

There seems to be a growing disinclination on conscientious grounds against Vaccination for protection against Small Pox, and I'm of the opinion that this attitude on behalf of the parents is to be deeply regretted.

#### Tuberculosis

There were 3 deaths from Tuberculosis during the year.

## General Provision of Health Service in the Area

MEDICAL—One part-time Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR—One Sanitary Inspector.

### Laboratory

The Examination of Swabs from all suspected cases of Diphtheria, and all samples of water for bacteriological examination, are carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service Carmarthen, under the Medical Research Council.

### Ambulance Facilities

(a) INFECTIOUS CASES—There is no Isolation Hospital in the area, all cases are removed in the ambulance provided by the County Medical Department.

(b) NON INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES—A Motor Ambulance provided by the County Council under Section 27 of the N.H.S. Act 1946.

### Nursing

Nursing in the home is provided for by the County Council under the new Act provided for by Section 25 and 28 of the N.H.S. Act 1946.

### Maternity and Child Welfare

This continues to do very useful work in the Town and District, and is much appreciated and found of considerable help by the mothers. The Centre is well attended, and keen interest is taken by the mothers, and Officials Sessions are held every fortnight, at which short lectures are delivered by the Medical Officer of Health.

Afternoon Teas are also provided for by the Committee. There has been no development or change in the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre in the Borough. The District Nurse has proved most useful and attentive. The number of mothers and children attending has increased.

### Water Supply

The water supply is obtained from the collection of three springs situated at the junction of the Cynnant Fawr and Cynnant Fach Rivers, tributaries of the River Bran, this water is delivered to a Service Reservoir through an approximately 13,000 yard long 3 7/8 diameter cast iron pipe. The Service Reservoir, is made up of two chambers one with capacity of 50,000 gallons and one with capacity of 100,000 gallons making a total of 150,000 gallons a storage of approx. 2½ days supply. This supply is supplemented by a borehole sunk approx. 100 yards from the Service Reservoir, the water being pumped into the reservoir by means of a centrifugal electric driven pump.

The Cynnant Spring supply is of a corrosive nature and attacks the 3 7/8 inch cast iron trunk main, the resulting corrosion steadily reducing the amount of water delivered, the reduction from April to October being 2,440 gallons.

The delivery of water from the Cynnant Springs measured in October was 34,000 gallons per day.

The yield of Borehole measured by test pumping 30,000 gallons per day. This is directly affected by the rainfall and a period of fine weather reduces it yield.

The whole district with the exception of a few isolated farms have a pipe supply.

Dwellings with pipe supply direct into dwellings	...	...	383
Combined shops and dwellings with pipe supply into premises	...	...	66
Premises with stand pipes in back area exclusively for each dwelling			35
Stand pipes in back areas shared. Number of dwellings sharing			28
12 Street taps shared by dwellings	...	...	50
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			562

One chemical analysis was made with the following remarks from the Public Analyst.

"It is a water of excellent organic purity and satisfactory bacteriological condition. I am of the opinion that it is suitable for drinking and all domestic purposes, it has corrosive properties and would be expected to attack metal pipes."

Three Bacteriological Analysis have been carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service the result was satisfactory.

The water is chlorinated and a Sodium Carbonate and Sodium Silicate Plant has been installed to neutralize the acidic and corrosive quality of the water.

The quality of the water is satisfactory, and the quantity of water is sufficient for present needs, but, considering the diminishing delivery of the water main from the Cynnant Springs and possibility of a dry summer reducing the yield of the Borehole, there is an urgent need of an increased supply of water in the Borough.

Steps are being taken to explore the possibility of increasing the headworks of the Cynnant supply with the replacing of the existing trunk main by an asbestos water main, between the Service Reservoir and the headworks, to supply the Borough, and that part of Llandilo Rural District on its route.

A recommendation has also been made to sink a borehole in the gravel, to the north of the town, tapping the naturally filtered subterranean stream of the River Towy.

There is an urgent need to implement either of the above proposed schemes as quickly as possible.

### Sewerage and Drainage

The Borough has no Main Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme. A recently constructed housing site of 32 houses at Maesglas, which was occupied in 1948-1949, is drained to a temporary sewerage plant made up of a septic tank and land irrigation furrows.

The culverted Bawddwr Stream passing through the centre of the town receives the sewage of 45 premises 310 premises have drainage system to cesspools, which are nothing more than soakaways sunk in the gravel subsoil. The Council have not undertaken to empty cesspools, owing to the difficulty of the disposal of the contents of these chambers for the reception of sewage, it is not practicable to enforce the construction of water-tight cesspools.

The 197 remaining dwellings have the conservancy system of pail closets, earth closets or privy's, 75 having privy's. These are cleaned by the occupiers of each premises, the contents usually buried in the back gardens.

Sullage water is conveyed by open channels to street gutters and to soakaways in gardens.

The road surface water discharges into the culverted Bawddwr Stream.

Two new surface water sewers were laid during the year, one in Broad Street and one in Orchard Street.

A Main Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme has been prepared.

A survey of 558 premises to be connected to the proposed main drainage scheme was carried out, and their respective sanitary accommodation drainage systems, and water supply inspected, recorded, and tabulated.

A detailed report on the conversion of the present sanitary accommodations and drainage systems into a Main Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme, has been submitted to the Welsh Board of Health for submission to the Grants Appeals Committee of the Ministry of Health.

It is expected that the work in this scheme will commence when the findings of the above Committee are made known.

The present system of sanitation and disposal of faecal matter is unsatisfactory, and may prove dangerous in the event of an outbreak of an infectious disease, and is prejudicial to the health of the neighbourhood.

### Public Cleansing

Household refuse is removed twice weekly, and deposited in the area of the Llandilo Rural District. Planned control tipping is difficult as the land is not owned by the Council.

The cleansing of the Borough Roads is carried out by the Borough Council employees and the County Roads by the Borough employees on behalf of the County Council.

Sanitary Inspection.				Dwelling Houses			
Number of inspections carried out	...	...	549	Number of re-inspections carried out	...	...	32
Number of informal Notices Served	...	...	23	Number of Informal Notices Complied	...	...	17
Statutory Notice under Public Health Act Served	...	...	5	Statutory Notices under Public Health Act Complied	...	...	4

### Food Shops

Number of visits	...	...	...	15	Number of re-visits	...	...	...	21
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### Bakehouses

Number of visits	...	...	...	5	Number of re-visits	...	...	...	12
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### Ice-Cream Premises

Number of visits	...	...	...	10	Number of revisits	...	...	...	14
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One new licence was issued for the manufacture, storage and Sale of ice-cream.

Three licenses were issued for the storage and sale of ice-cream. There are ten premises licenced for the storage and sale of ice-cream and one for the manufacture of ice-cream.

### Milk Supply

Number of visits to dairies	...	...	...	10	Number of re-visits	...	...	...	9
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No statutory action was taken, all defects were remedied informally.



Dairies on Register	...	...	...	5	Raw Milk Retailers on Register	...	...	3
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#### Licences Issued

Tuberculin Tested Dealers Licences	...	2	Pasteurised Dealers Licence	...	...	1
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#### Licenced Hotels and Public Houses

Number of visits	...	...	...	21	Number of re-visits	...	...	50
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New ladies and gents sanitary conveniences installed in three public houses.

Hot and cold water installed over sink in bar of three public houses. Steps are being taken to bring all Hotels and Public Houses up to the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

#### Slaughter Houses

There are no slaughter-houses licenced in the Borough. Three slaughterman's licences were issued. Four cottagers Pigs were inspected.

#### Food condemned during the Year

Imported Beef...119lbs. Pork (2 sides)...170lbs. Tin Vegetables...21lbs.6ozs. Tinned Milk...6lbs.4ozs. Tinned Meat...10lbs.15ozs. Tinned Fish...2lbs1½ozs. Wet Cod...14lbs. Bacon...53lbs. Ham...32lbs. Wheat-meal...7,280lbs. White...4,258lbs. Oatmeal...6,020lbs. Rice...84lbs.

#### Infectious Diseases

Eight cases of Scarlet Fever were visited and recorded. Two cases only were notified officially. All cases were removed to Tumble Isolation Hospital.

#### Disinfection

8 Houses were disinfected after Scarlet Fever cases. 2 Houses were disinfected after Tubercular deaths.

#### Housing

Action was taken under Section II of the Health Act 1936 with respect to No. 2 Crug View.

An undertaking was received from the owners not to relet for human habitation, but to submit plans for the conversion of the building into a garage on becoming vacant.

The following plans were submitted for approval :—Proposed garage at 20, College View. Alteration and extension of the Half Moon, Stone Street. Alteration of office into Fish and Chip Bar, at No. 1 Water Street. Erection of Hip Roof over semi-detached flat roofed houses at Mererid and Eleri, New Road. All plans were approved.

#### New Buildings

A new dwelling house was completed in Lower Road. A new dwelling was completed at Velindre. The erection of a new private dwelling was started at Station Road. Work was started on the following buildings :—4, Queen Street. Extension to the Castle Hotel. Extension to Half Moon Hotel. Renovations to the Three Horse Shoes Hotel. Repairs and renovations to Station Hotel.

#### Licences

One licence was issued to erect a private house in Station Road. One licence valued £850 was issued for the extending and rebuilding of part of No. 4 Queen Street.

While the allocation of a monthly ceiling of £200 per month was a reasonable licencing ceiling, the allocation for the greater part of 1950 of £110 per quarter is not reasonable considering that the free limit is £100. This quota was based on 1949 issue of licences, the year that this Borough had no Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, it increases the administrative work of referring all applications to the Ministry of Works.

#### Local Authority Housing

Six of the 8 houses in King's Arms Street Housing Site are under construction.

A further scheme of 12 houses to be erected in Caefelincaeau Housing Site is being prepared.

#### Cancer

There has been no campaign against Cancer and no special facilities are available for the diagnosis and treatment of Cancer.

#### Tuberculosis

New cases and Mortality during 1950.

Age Period—16—26 years—Male—1	Female—1—Respiratory.	45 years—Male—Respiratory—1.	Total—3.
Deaths—3.			

The efficiency of notification of Tuberculosis in the area is thorough and deserves commendation.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1950.

Scarlet Fever—1½ years 1.	4 years—3.	5 years—4	All admitted to Hospital.
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I wish to express my thanks to the Sanitary Inspector for his valuable assistance during the year.

I remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

**John Thomas Price, M.D.**

Medical Officer of Health for the Llandoverly Borough.